

J/109 Class Association

Notice To Class Members –Election of Class Officers

In accordance with sections 6.13 and 6.14 of the J/109 Class Constitution, voting is now open through January 20, 2012. Submit your vote by email to Ed Dailey at the following address: dailey@raptor205.com

You may vote for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, individually or as a slate.

You must be listed as a Member on the Class website to vote.

The following nominees have been presented to the Class by the Nominating Committee:

President	Bob Schwartz, Fleet 10, Long Island Sound	To be elected by Voting Members
Vice President	Kevin Saedi, Fleet 11, Southern Lake Michigan	To be elected by Voting Members
Treasurer	Ted Herlihy, Fleet 6 , New England	To be elected by Voting Members
Secretary	Tina Filippelli, Fleet 10, Long Island Sound	To be elected by Voting Members
Chief Measurer	Adrian Begley, Fleet 2, New Jersey	To be appointed by Executive Board
At Large Member Representative	Sam Mitchener, Fleet 4, Chesapeake Bay	To be appointed by Executive Board

Following are nominee backgrounds:

President: Bob Schwartz

Currently, beginning in 2011, Bob serves as our Class Treasurer. He has a degree in Computer Science and has spent over 20 years working on Wall Street developing computer applications for the trading and accounting of complex financial instruments, mostly derivatives. He has owned sail boats of the non-racing day sailor type for 20 years and crewed on racing boats for about 10 years, mostly on Sonars and Beneteau 36.7's. Bob bought his J/109 three years ago and this is his first experience owning, campaigning and driving his own boat in races.

Bob says: In the western Long Island Sound, I see a lot of J/109's that look to be in or close to racing ready, but that never race. I suspect that to be the case in other sailing areas. I think we need to reach out to these owners and encourage them to come out and give racing a try. Perhaps we need to consider some regattas with simple formats, maybe races without spinnakers, or find other ways to get owners to

not feel intimidated. Also I have noticed after having walked through my local J boat dealer's boat yard, that there are a number of 109's for sale. We might want to reach out to the dealers and offer to be references for 109's as potential owners are considering different classes of boats. Knowing that there was an active class with friendly owners to consult, influenced my buying decision.

Vice President: Kevin Saedi

Kevin has a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management. He is President and Co-Founder of InTouch Solutions, an automated messaging services company established in 2003.

Kevin started sailing in 1996, cruising on a C&C 27 for 7 years. He then raced his Beneteau 33.7 for five years and has now raced his J/109 for four years. He raced on a J/105 for a few years and skippered a boat in the 2010 NA's in Chicago. Kevin has been in 12 Mackinac races since 2000. three as crew, one as watch captain and eight as skipper. He chaired the J/109 North Americans in Chicago in 2009 and regularly participates in most major regattas and a lot of smaller races in Chicago. He also co-chaired the Fleet Championship Series for Fleet 11 in 2010 and 2011. He has taken many sailing classes from the US Coast guard as well as racing courses from J/World and others. He is currently working on his Captain's License.

Kevin says: I'm constantly looking for ways to get new people involved in sailing by supporting the skip jacks, and willing to take people out who are enthusiastic about learning to sail. I really enjoy sailing on my J/109 and would love to help the fleet grow nationally and locally.

Treasurer: Ted Herlihy

Ted is a member of the Nominating Committee and, when he is not sailing, is a physician on the south coast of Massachusetts. Ted's boat *Gut Feeling* is the three time winner of the J/109 North American Championship, most recently in Annapolis in October of 2011.

He has been sailing mainly in New England, cruising from Maine to Long Island. Most of his racing has been local from Buzzards Bay, MA to Block Island, RI, recently venturing to Annapolis. He started sailing in his 30's on a Pearson 30, then, for his first one design sailing, on a J/30. He then moved to a J/37 but, missing the one design aspect of racing, bought his J/109 in 2004 and has been racing it since then.

Ted sees his J/109 is the perfect racer/cruiser. Ted says: As a class officer, my goal would be to foster both aspects. Having been in the class from the beginning, I've watched class racing peak, then decline somewhat, but now it seems to be picking back up with the new cadre of owners. I am a proponent of tight one design rules. The cruisers need a forum as well, to give the class association more unity. This may encourage the dual users to get into class racing. Our class website should be the go to source for events, forums/blogs on boat issues, racing, and cruising, as well as promoting used sails/etc. In addition the site could promote dealers selling new/used 109s, helping maintain the value of our boats.

Secretary: Cristina (Tina) Filippelli

Tina did her undergraduate work at Middlebury College, VT where she studied International Studies, Italian, and Anthropology. She earned her doctorate (PsyD) in clinical psychology from Antioch University, New England. In between college and graduate school Tina worked primarily in fundraising for a few years. Currently, she is negotiating with a neurorehabilitation facility to create a post-doc fellowship so she can work toward licensure.

Tina has been active in the class for the last five years while sailing on her father's J/109, *Caminos*. Over that time, she eventually took over running the boat and, while Tina does not own the boat, has relevant experience as a boat owner.

Tina would like to increase participation of boats whose crews have less experience than those on the winning boats. She believes one way to do this is through building camaraderie. She has noticed that efforts in other fleets to recognize things other than winning have been successful. For example, she has seen that awards for the farthest-traveled boat, the youngest crew member, etc., tend to "spread the wealth" and build commitment to the class. In addition Tina believes it's important to make sure there are opportunities for the fleet to get together socially at events. For example, the tradition of having a J/109 party at Block Island Race Week has become one the *Caminos* crew's favorite parts of the week. Tina believes that camaraderie, on and off the water, is as important as excellent racing.

Tina says: These are just a couple of items that are important to me - fostering collegiality and inclusiveness within the fleet, and encouraging boats to travel (and making efforts to ensure it's as easy/painless as possible). I acknowledge that I am young, and that there are many class members who have been involved in the class for longer than I have. But I think that I bring a fresh open-mindedness to the table.

Chief Measurer: Adrian Begley

Adrian is currently J/109 Class Chief Measurer. He started sailing dinghies as a teenager in England. He says that racing OK dinghies greatly improved his swimming.

He cruised and raced a 27 foot IOR boat on the Irish sea for 8 years before moving to the USA in 1998 after a year of cruising around the North Atlantic. In 2002 he bought a J/80 which he kept in Atlantic Highlands, NJ and raced on the East Coast. In 2005 he bought the J/109 *Mad Dogs and Englishmen* intending to mostly cruise, though he has raced more than cruised. His boat is based in Atlantic Highlands and has been raced in Long Island Sound, Newport, Key West and Annapolis.

At Large Member Representative: Sam Mitchener

Sam is a medical doctor and did his residency in General Surgery at the University of Virginia in in Charlottesville, VA. He has owned his J/109 since May, 2004, and feels that sailing with other J/109 owners has been one of the most enjoyable aspects of owning the boat. He sails regularly in the events at Fishing Bay Yacht Club.

He got into sailing on Sunfish and Lightnings as a youngster at Camp Sea Gull near Oriental, NC. After several summers as a camper he served for four summers as Assistant Sailing Master. His sailing on the Chesapeake Bay began with chartered boats out of Annapolis each year for vacations with his wife. His first boat was a Laser that Sam and his son Jim sailed for a few years before he bought the J/109. He has raced in many Chesapeake Bay events, including in the Annapolis NOOD for the past three years.

As At Large Member Representative and a member of the Executive Board, Sam says: I would like to try and develop more J/109 Class racing around the Chesapeake, possibly in events like Screwpile and Southern Bay Race Week, in addition to the NOOD. We have a great facility at Fishing Bay Yacht Club, and I would like to see our Fishing Bay Yacht Club host an event like the J/109 North American Championship. We have hosted major regattas for one-design fleets (Optis and Flying Scots), and the club is interested in hosting an event for J/109's or J/105's. I think it would be great to add the Southern Bay to the list of venues for some of the bigger regattas.

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